

# Accolades and Newsworthy Notes

#### May 27, 2016

Dr. Gerold Bepler offered congratulations to the following Karmanos faculty members who have been promoted. These promotions are effective August 18, 2016 and will be celebrated on June 8 at the Wayne State University annual promotion and tenure reception.

Please join Drs. Bepler and Shijie Sheng in applauding our Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Program members:

Promoted to the rank of professor Suzanne Jacques, M.D. - Pathology Faisal Qureshi, M.D., - Pathology

Promoted to the rank of associate professor Abhinav Deol, M.D., - Oncology Chunying Li, Ph.D. – Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology

## April 12, 2016

#### sharing an important message from Dr. Gerold Bepler.....

"I want to thank **Shijie Sheng**, Ph.D., Tumor Biology and Microenvironment (TBM) Program leader, for her leadership of the program since its creation in 2012 and through the successful renewal of our Core Center Support Grant. Dr. Sheng has decided to step down from her leadership role to focus on her own laboratory research. Dr. Sheng will remain as program leader until a placement is found. We will start a national search for a basic scientist to lead the program, and Dr. Sheng has agreed to chair the search committee.

Members of Karmanos' Tumor Biology and Microenvironment Program collectively focus on the biological processes and underlying molecular mechanisms of tumor metastasis, the predominant cause of cancer morbidity and mortality. Through this program, we have expanded our research scope to better support the comprehensiveness and translatability of our research.

On behalf of Karmanos Cancer Institute, thank you Dr Sheng for your dedication to our mission and for your ongoing support as we search for the next TBM Program leader."

Gerold Bepler, M.D., Ph.D.

## 2016 – Wayne State University Campus news

April 6: Our Program members Drs. Ceilia L. Speyer and David H. Gorski were participants in the Tenth annual David Fromm research and Wayne State University Surgical Alumni Day. The work was titled "Riluzole: a nontoxic treatment for breast cancer" with collaborators MA Hasar, AH Hachem, MA Bukhsh, WS Jafry and RM Khansa.

April 26: The Wayne State University Board of Governors and President M. Roy Wilson recognized our Program members for years of service with the University at a reception held at the McGregor Center.

Our Tumor Biology and	d Microenvironment Program hono	orees:
Alexander Gow	Lawrence Grossman	Voravit Rata
Anjum Sohail	Cecilia Speyer	Ellen Tisdale

Voravit Ratanatharathorn Ellen Tisdale

## Recent presentations, abstracts and posters

Dr Kang Chen, in collaboration with Dr Shijie Sheng and other colleagues are pleased to share the news their manuscript has been accepted in the respected journal Oncotarget. This work is titled "Migration-inducting protein 7 promotes tumorigenesis and angiogenesis and independently predicts poor prognosis of epithelial ovarian cancer". PMID: 27050277 (see abstract below)

Drs. Felix R. Fernandez-Madrid, Lawrence Grossman and colleagues presented their work on breast cancer at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Autoimmunity in Leipzig, Germany. This work, titled "The autoantibody profile in breast cancer sera suggests that autoimmunity is involved in its pathogenesis" has clear implications for clinical trials. Please contact Drs. Ferandez-Madrid or Grossman if you are interested in collaborating on this topic.

#### Wayne State Prognosis E-News, April 20, 2016

Dr. Ramesh Batchu's laboratory findings were featured in a recent edition of the E-news. His team works on pancreatic, ovarian cancer vaccines and presented at surgery conferences in March and April.

http://prognosis.med.wayne.edu/article/batchu-labs-findings-in-pancreatic-ovarian-cancer-vaccines-presented-at-surgery-conferences



## New Funding \$\$\$\$

Drs. Menq-Jer Lee and Fulvio Lonardo are this year's recipients' of the Karmanos Cancer Institute Strategic Research Initiative Grant. The title of their project is "Sphingosin-1-phosphate receptor subtype 3 in oncogenic K-Ras mutant driven lung adenocarcinomas". The award is \$50,000 for one year.

Dr. **Qing-Sheng Mi**, our Program member, and colleague at Henry Ford Health System, received three new awards as follows: NIH/ NIAMS: Roles of HDAC3 in epidermal Langerhans cell ontology and function (5 years) NIH/ NAID: miRNAs and NKT cell development and function (5 years) NIH/ NIAID: Serum miRNA biomarkers of islet autoimmunity (4 years)

Dr. Benjamin Kidder received a new three year funding award (K22) from the NIH for his project titled "Regulation of chromatin and genome stability by the H4K20 methyltransferase SMYD5". Total funding \$747,000

Dr. Hyeong-Reh Choi Kim received new funding support (R01), now totaling 10 years of funding, from the NIH for her project titled "PDGF D and prostate cancer bone metastasis". \$1,763,282

Dr. Wei Zen Wei received renewal of a five year grant from the National Cancer Institute for work on breast cancer vaccines, a successful model to target molecules present in cancers including breast, prostate, lung, gastric and ovarian. \$1,539,000. Other collaborators include Program member Haipeng Liu and colleagues Heather Gibson, Gregory Dyson and Richard Jones.

Dr. Jian-Ping Jin received a four year R01 for his work titled "Regulation of Troponin I in cardiac adaptation and failure". This research will combine "the complementary expertise of several research laboratories to study the function and production of N-terminal truncated cardiac troponin I for the ultimate goal of translating this novel molecular mechanism into the development of a new treatment for diastolic heart failure." Read the full story here:

http://prognosis.med.wayne.edu/archive-articles.php?year=2016&month=04&type=1

# In the News -

New lab techniques have provided the first good look at a crucial but mysterious stage in the development of human embryos, scientists reported Wednesday. The researchers said follow-up research might eventually lead to new treatments for infertility and perhaps new forms of birth control. The work extends the amount of embryonic development that can be observed in a laboratory. "It gives us all kinds of new ideas to work on," said **D. Randall Armant** of Wayne State University in Detroit.

http://www.usnews.com/news/science/articles/2016-05-04/laboratory-advance-provides-view-of-early-embryo-development

# Hot off the Press – SELECTION OF PUBLICATIONS

Roma AA, Mistretta TA, De Vivar AD, Park KJ, Alvarado-Cabrero I, Rasty G, Chanona-Vilchis JG, Mikami Y, Hong SR, Teramoto N, Ali-Fehmi R, Barbuto D, Rutgers JK, Silva EG

New pattern-based personalized risk stratification system for endocervical adenocarcinoma with important clinical implications and surgical outcome

Gynecol Oncol. 2016 Apr;141(1):36-42. PMID: 27016227

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A miR-192-EGR1-HOXB9 regulatory network controls the angiogenic switch in cancer Nat Commun. 2016 Apr 4;7:11169. PMID: 27041221



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# Public link to abstracts on Pub Med TBM Program, Q2, 2016:

Please click or cut and paste into your browser

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/1FYGjcDKXgCAs/collections/50242371/public/